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## House of Representatives

STATEMENT OF  
CONGRESSMAN ED CASE OF HAWAII  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2005

### CONGRATULATING THE WEST OAHU LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2005 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to join the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. Abercrombie) in introducing this resolution. I also thank our colleagues for bringing it forward on to the floor to give us a chance to show our pride in our great Hawaii as well as our country.

I remember as a young boy being given a book by my parents. It was one of those Reader's Digest books of annotated inspirational stories, and in that book was a story of an American team who came from great odds to win the Little League World championship. I wish I could remember today what year that was or what team that was, but never in my wildest dreams would I have expected to be standing here on the floor of the House congratulating a team from my Hawaii for doing the exact same thing so many decades later.

Anybody that watched this team come through the brackets to win the championship of our Nation could not help but have incredible pride at their achievements, and anybody that watched that game watched one of the great sporting events in history when the team came back from incredible odds to tie the score and then go on through fierce determination to win the championship of the world, and a team from Ewa Beach, Hawaii. Such an amazing, amazing accomplishment for the boys from Ewa Beach. And as we watched that game, we saw not only the epitome of Little League, not only the epitome of our country, but the very epitome of team spirit and team aloha. We saw parents urging that team on. We saw willpower. We saw commitment. We saw fire coming out of that

pitcher's eyes in the bottom of that last inning, and we saw that home run being hit off of sheer determination.

We are so proud in Hawaii of our Ewa Beach World Series champions. We are so proud of what we have accomplished. We are so proud to do this on behalf of our entire country.

I wish all of our team the very best as they go forward with their lives, having had the experience of their lives. And I wish to this House and to the Senate and to this Congress a great gratitude for being able to stand here and brag about the great team from Hawaii. Mahalo aloha.

#### *Written Statement*

Mr. Speaker, I rise with deep pride today to honor and congratulate the West Oahu Little League Baseball Team of Ewa Beach, Hawaii for winning the 2005 Little League World Series Championship in one of the most exciting championship games ever played, in any sport, any league!

It was almost a miracle that these champions, the very best of our Hawaii and country, even made it to the championship, fighting their way through some of the toughest brackets and past great teams from throughout our nation. And in the bottom of the sixth and last inning, down 6-3, their great coach, Layton Aliviado, told them: "If you guys want it, let's go get it."

That's exactly what the team did, scoring three runs to tie the game and send it into extra in-

nings. Then, in the top of the first extra inning, a fiery and determined Vonn Fe`ao shut down opposing Curacao, last year's world champs, striking out the batters in order. And in the bottom of that inning, Jason Memea blasted a walk-off solo home run to win the game and world championship.

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To all the members of our West Oahu team—Alaka'i Aglipay, Layson Aliviado, Sheyne Baniaga, Myron "Kini" Enos, Vonn Fe`ao, Quentin Guevara, Ethan Javier, Harrison Kam, Michael Memea, Zachary Ranit, Zachary Rosete, Ty Tirpak—and their coaches—Layton Aliviado, Tyron Kitashima and Clint Tirpak—mahalo nui loa (thank you very much) for representing our state of Hawaii and the rest of our nation with great pride and aloha that exemplifies "one team, one dream." You showed the heart of champions, epitomizing the best of baseball, sport, our Hawaii and the indomitable spirit of our country.